

SECRET

Dispatch No. 1520 OFOWU

SECURITY INFORMATION

Subject: Brief Summary of Medical Activities in HBBASIS from May 15 to 1 September 1951.

BGFIEND

Within the area of Munich, two hours by car from Munich and two hours by car from the ELOPE assessment site, there is a training and holding area for BGFIEND. At times the number of men contained in this area reached 40. These men are engaged in unconventional warfare activity and as a result are subject to various types of injury. In addition to this these men are brought up from the areas of Italy and Greece with medical clearance that is not always sufficient to weed out those that are undesirable from a physical and neuro-psychological standpoint. Apparently the chain of movement is from Italy and Greece to Munich are sent to Murnau for training.

Another dispensary-type installation with supplies drawn from the 98th General Hospital was established at the training site in Murnau. This set-up is not as elaborate as the one at Miesbach but yet it is adequate and functioning efficiently. The efficient functioning of medical care for this group is due in large part to the lucky chance that one of the BGFIEND training staff has had three years pre-medical training and spent 18 months in the Navy as a hospital corpsman. However, we have instructed him in the rudiments of first aid and taught him how to give certain injections including penicillin.

Working backwards then, we began to screen the men already at Murnau. Among one group of 11, we found five who had active syphilis, three acute anxiety reactions and one man with apparently chronic ulcerative colitis and one man with possible active tuberculosis. In addition to this, all the men, almost without exception, had a wide multiplicity of complaints so that each man appeared to be suffering from periarteritis nodosa. The men with the syphilis were treated at the site. To all the men who had presented these multiplicity of complaints, a rudimentary attempt at psychological support was given in that they were listened to with sympathy and allowed to talk as long as they wanted and then were given placebos. This process was repeated over a period of weeks until the men were ready to leave.

We are now attempting to screen the men within the holding area so that before they are sent to the training area we will have some better knowledge of their physical capabilities in a determined effort to prevent disposal problems from arising because of physical defects. Despite this, however, I feel very strongly that the whole efficiency of this program from the human element can be materially improved by having assessment sites both in Greece and in Italy where the

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

SECRET

**SECRET**

**SECURITY INFORMATION**

potential candidates for this program can be effectively examined and their physical status determined by our standards. It is a well-known fact, as you probably know, that European medical standards are in no way comparable to ours. No attempt is being made to demand that these men be of the calibre of Army Profile A, but I believe it is important that we do not find ourselves saddled with men who are either psycho-neurotic, actively syphilitic with possible CNS Les or actively tubercular, because these men are liable at any moment to present severe security problems and subsequently disposal problems. These theories have been discussed with members of the BGFIEND program and they feel that this reasoning is justified.

Another very important element in the program has been the tremendously poor calibre of the teeth of the men involved. This has necessitated a plan of cooperation with the U.S. Army dispensary at Garmisch where these men are treated for their dental troubles. The officer in charge of the dental dispensary has been informed that this work is to be done, no records are to be kept and no questions are to be asked and any difficulty is to be referred to me in my capacity as a medical officer on the staff of the Surgeon General. As stated previously, these men are now being screened and this is accomplished at the 98th General Hospital under very secure means. The last group was screened with X-rays and blood tests in addition to the routine physicals between the hours of 5:00 and 7:00 AM.

Added support has been given to the BGFIEND program in the form of medical kits which were made up from items procured on the open and black markets. These kits are completely sterile from a security standpoint. So far we have prepared approximately 25 such kits for inclusion in their operations. The future of the FIEND program as far as medical support is concerned will, of course, depend to a large measure upon the installation of or arrangements for a more effective medical screening program before these men are brought into Germany. This will be discussed further in the comprehensive report to follow.

**SECRET**